TRIBUTE TO CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER CHARLES C. CAULK

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2003

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the contributions of a man who has served this country for many years with remarkable dedication and honor. I rise to honor Chief Warrant Officer Charles C. Caulk who is retiring from the United States Army after a phenomenal 43 years of service.

It takes a noble man to serve his country. But a man who dedicates 43 years of his life to protecting and serving the ideas that this country was built upon, is a man that few words can describe. Chief Warrant Office Caulk's contributions to the armed services have left a lasting impact and will be not forgotten.

It is a privilege to recognize a person whose leadership and commitment to our nation has enriched the lives of countless individuals. I hope that all of my distinguished colleagues will join me in honoring Chief Warrant Officer Caulk's unwavering dedication to both the citizens of our great nation and citizens around the world. His efforts create a resonating hope in the lives of those who do not enjoy the fruits of freedom and democracy.

IN HONOR OF AN OUTSTANDING AMERICAN AND HIS WORK AS PRESIDENT OF THE INTER-NATIONAL STANDARDS ORGANI-ZATION: OLIVER R. SMOOT

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2003

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for myself and for Chairman BOEHLERT of the House Committee on Science to recognize Oliver R. Smoot, vice-president for external voluntary standards relations at the Information Technology Industry Council (ITI), as he begins his term as the President of the International Standards Organization (ISO). It is a high honor and a major achievement to be asked to be the leader of the World's standards community but it is not surprising that Ollie Smoot is the one chosen. Mr. Smoot has long been a pillar of the standards community, most recently as President-elect of ISO and as Chairman of the American National Standards Institute, the organization which represents the United States in international standards matters and oversees the establishment of U.S. national standards. The ISO, which was established in 1947, serves as the world's primary entity for the adoption of uniform international standards that are relied by all of us every day. Without international agreement on how we measure, determine quality, and provide for health and safety life as we know it today would not be possible. ISO quietly, but effectively, has spent over 50 years helping over 140 nations reach agreement on the standards that underlie world trade, manufacturing, scientific research, and many other aspects of our lives. Since its founding only three other Americans have held the office of President of this worldwide federation.

We are fortunate that Oliver Smoot is ready, willing, and able to undertake major challenges since his service comes at a pivotal time when the importance of international standards is rapidly increasing. There may never have been a time when ISO faced bigger challenges. As tariffs and other trade barriers wane and world trade increases, the pressures to harmonize standards in many fields increases. As the world becomes more interdependent, the importance of international standards grows. As challenges to ISO's onecountry, one vote system of representation mount, having a strong leader at the head of ISO becomes more and more essential. Fortunately, Mr. Smoot has an extensive background in standardization and conformity assessment policies both at the national and international level; he has been a strong leader in numerous ANSI Board-level committees and task forces and has served as chairman of the Institute's Finance Committee and Patent Group. As chairman of the ANSI Organization Member Council, he facilitated ANSI's policy-setting activities affecting more than 250 standard developers, professional societies, trade associations and academic institutions interested in standards, certification and conformity assessment. Balancing the needs of 140 nations can't be that much harder than presiding over the conflicting needs of everyone in the United States who has an interest in standards. If anyone is prepared for the challenge of running the ISO, we assume Oliver Smoot is. He has come a long way from the establishment of the standard "Smoot" as an undergraduate at MIT.

Mr. Smoot will be the guest of honor, on Wednesday the 26th of February at a House of Representatives reception to celebrate his new tenure as President of the ISO. I hope that many of you will take the opportunity at that point to congratulate Mr. Smoot personally. Oliver R. Smoot is a great American who has labored long for the betterment of Science and the global economy and I am pleased that this week he is getting long-deserved recognition of this service.

RECOGNIZING AMERICAN HEART MONTH

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, February 26, 2003

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize February as American Heart Month. Each February during American Heart Month, the American Heart Association launches a nationwide campaign to educate the public about cardiovascular disease. Programs and activities are planned throughout the month to reinforce the message that cardiovascular disease is the number one threat to the overall health and lives of Americans. As a member of the Congressional Heart and Stroke Coalition, I rise today to recognize the efforts of the American Heart Association and reaffirm my commitment to fighting heart disease.

Recent advances in heart treatment are promising—new technologies, screenings and medicines all promote healthier hearts and continue to save millions of lives. Despite

these discoveries and research advances, heart disease remains the nation's leading cause of death, while stoke is the third leading cause of death. More than 61 million Americans suffer from heart disease, stroke or another cardiovascular disease. Combined, these illnesses are expected to cost the nation \$351.8 billion in medical costs in 2003.

Tobacco use, lack of physical activity and poor nutrition all contribute to cardiovascular disease. Smokers have twice the risk for heart attack of nonsmokers. People who are not physically active have twice the risk for heart disease of those who are active, while those who are overweight are also at risk. This February's American Heart Month efforts focus on encouraging individuals to modify these behaviors in order prevent and control cardiovascular disease. American Heart Month is also encouraging citizens to become American Heartsavers by completing training in lifesaving CPR and defibrillation and be prepared to act quickly in the case of sudden cardiac arrest.

Recognizing and responding to heart attack symptoms and receiving quick, appropriate care can preclude or limit heart damage. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) currently funds health programs in 29 states and the District of Columbia that develop strategies to reduce the risk of cardiovascular diseases and related risk factors. As we recognize the work of these important programs, let us also honor the doctors, researchers, health professionals, public education professionals, and volunteers for their diligent efforts in preventing, treating, and researching heart disease and for making American Heart Month a success.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ALASKA NATIVE VETERANS LAND AL-LOTMENT EQUITY ACT

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, February 26, 2003

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, in the last Congress, I introduced a bill to set right an unfair situation dealt to Alaska Native Vietnam Veterans who were unaware that their rights to apply for their Native allotment were expiring while they were off in a foreign land fighting for our country. By far, American Indians and Alaska Natives have the highest percentage of answering their call to duty when there is a conflict of war.

My bill would amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) to provide equitable treatment of Alaska Native Vietnam Veterans in their acquisition of land under the Native Allotment Act. This solution has been a long time in coming and my goal is to have Congress rectify this inequity.

Approximately 2,800 Alaska Natives served in the military during the Vietnam conflict and did not have an opportunity to apply for their native allotment. Even though a prior ANCSA amendment gave Alaska Native Vietnam Veterans an opportunity to obtain their allotment, the Amendment contained three major obstacles providing a roadblock to actually obtaining it.

First, Alaska Native Vietnam Veterans could only apply for land that was vacant and unreserved when their use first began. My bill will